

## December 01, 2024

# 1st Sunday of Advent

### MASS INTENTIONS

Live-stream All Masses on the West Sac OLG YouTube Channel

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SUNDAY	Nov 30	5:30 PM vigil	Melicia Reddy	+
			Leonila Arucan	+
	Dec 01	9 AM	Joseph Matthai	+
			James Nordyke	+
			Helen Maurer	+
		11 AM	Jacob Lawrence	(Special Intention)
MONDAY	Dec 02	8:30 AM	John Hagg	(Healing)
			Stan Holland	(Healing)
TUESDAY	Dec 03	8:30 AM	Michael Vilhauer	(Healing)
			Pacing McFeely	(Healing)
			Sonja Craighton	(Healing)
WEDNESDAY	Dec 04	8:30 AM	Timothy Fish	+
	6		Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena	
THURSDAY	Dec 05	No Mass		
FRIDAY	Dec 06	8:30 AM	Michael Vilhauer	(Healing)
			Pacing McFeely	(Healing)
SATURDAY	Dec 07	8:30 AM	Lawrence Family	(Thanksgiving

#### JESUS IS NEAR!

Think for just a moment about a time where you highly anticipated something. For me, one of those moments was seeing the new Star Wars movie that came out after the first six. I remember watching all the movies as a kid with my dad and I was super excited to go see the next installment. We all have moments that we anticipate and we stop what we are doing in life and set some time aside to prepare. Here we are on the First Sunday of Advent, where we anticipate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The first reading makes it clear that this was a major event. Think about the context for a second. For years and years the Jewish people had been promised a messiah. They had been waiting for the promises that were made to Israel and Judah to come to fruition. Finally, the time had come. Unlike a movie premier or an important event, this event will impact everything. The Church, in her wisdom, sets apart this holy season for us to anticipate the Messiah. For us to set aside what we are doing, the worries we have, the business of life, and really enter into this mystery.

No matter how much we enter into it though, at the end of the day, we all know that Jesus has already come. He has already been born and has become our Savior. This is why the Church also presents us with the Gospel today. You might find it weird that the Gospel at the start of Advent speaks of the end times. There is a reason for everything the Church does. Advent is not just a time for us to reflect on the birth of Christ, but also to anticipate the other important moment in history where Christ will come again. The question is, are we ready? Do we put just as much time and planning into making sure our relationship with God is where it should be as we put into going to that movie premier?

This is what the Advent season allows us to do. It allows us to pause our busy lives and meditate on the beauty of God becoming flesh, while at the same time anticipating His second coming as King of the Universe. During this season let's pray for the grace to always be ready and that we might fully be able to participate in everything the Church has to offer us during this time. Ultimately, if we are in a state of Grace, the second coming is not a scary event but simply the next chapter in our walk with Christ. Let's embrace both of these mysteries throughout this next month and allow God to enter into our hearts and change us so that when He does come again he recognizes us as his good and faithful servants.

(Tommy Schultz, Diocesan.com)

# Welcome to OUR LADY OF GRACE Catholic Church

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



# **ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE on Monday,**

**December 16, at 7:00 PM.** Whether you've gone to confession recently, or haven't for many years, this is a great chance to Prepare for the Lord. Visiting priests will be on-site to hear your confession. Open your heart to conversion. Be patients. Be open to receive the Lord's great mercy.



CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES - One of the best things about celebrating a Catholic Christmas are the final days leading up to Christmas Eve. There are several long-standing Catholic cultural traditions that take us through these final days of Advent, heightened with anticipation in so soon welcoming the birth of the King of Kings. The Las Posadas ("The Inns") celebrated in Latin American countries, and Simbáng Gabi ("Night Mass") in the Philippines are just two examples of nine-day celebrations beginning on December 15 and continuing until December 23. All are welcome to join these traditions, even offer Masses of thanksgiving, or for a loved one, living/decease. Father Mathew, visiting priests and Bishop Jaime Soto and/or Rey Bersabal will rotate celebrating the Novena Masses. Offering envelopes are in the Church, and can be dropped into the Sunday collection basket. A potluck fellowship occurs every night, after Mass

# 9 Day Christmas Novena Mass Schedule: December 15, and 17, 18, 19, 20, 22 & 23 at 6:30 PM. December 16 and 22, at 5:30 PM



## A Steward makes God's Love visible by imitating Jesus.



## SERVICE

Weekly Budget Goal of \$4,271.00 Collection for Dec 01: \$- Dec 08: \$-Dec 15: \$- Dec 22: \$- Dec 29: \$-

Please help us reach our

## PRAYER

Advent Prayer for the Family – Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen. (Dynamiccatholic.com)

Monday, December 16: Advent Penance Service at 7:00 PM.

Monday, December 9: Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation.

Mass Times: 7:00 AM; 8:30 AM OLG School Mass; and 7:00 PM.

## FORMATION

CFF Advent Retreat on Tuesday, December 3 at 5:30 PM at OLG School. CFF classes on Tuesdays, December 10 and 17 at 5:30 PM at OLG School. Christmas Break, No CFF classes December 24 and December 31. CFF resumes with Joint Session in the church on January 7 at 5:30 PM.

### HOSPITALITY

Happy Birthday to all celebrating their birthdays in the month of December. May God bless you abundantly.

## KID'S CORNER



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